

IN THE CLAIMS

The following represents a complete description of the present status of the claims in the subject application including current amendments:

1-44 (canceled).

45 (currently amended). ~~A cardiae~~ An electrical cardiac stimulation system as in claim 43 65 further comprising an atrial lead including ~~said~~ an atrial electrode, said atrial electrode being selected from the group consisting of ~~at least one of an~~ atrial tip electrodes and ~~an~~ atrial ring electrodes, and a ventricular lead including a ventricular electrode, said ventricular electrode being selected from the group consisting of at least one of a ventricular tip electrodes, ~~a ventricular~~ ~~superior vena cava electrode~~, ~~a~~ ventricular coil electrodes, and ~~a~~ ventricular ring electrodes.

46-51 (canceled).

52 (currently amended). ~~A cardiae~~ An electrical cardiac stimulation system as in claim 45 wherein the electrical stimulus conducts electrically between ~~the~~ an atrial tip electrode and the housing.

53 (currently amended). ~~A cardiae~~ An electrical cardiac stimulation system as in claim 45 wherein the electrical stimulus conducts electrically between ~~the~~ a ventricular tip electrode and the housing.

54 (currently amended). ~~A cardiae~~ An electrical cardiac stimulation system as in claim 44 ~~66~~ further comprising an atrial lead including ~~said~~ an atrial electrode, said atrial electrode being selected from the group consisting of ~~at least one of an~~ atrial tip electrodes, ~~and~~ an atrial ring electrodes, and a ventricular lead including a ventricular electrode, said ventricular electrode being selected from the group consisting of ~~at least one of a~~ ventricular tip electrodes and a ventricular ring electrodes.

55 (canceled).

56 (currently amended). ~~A cardiae~~ An electrical cardiac stimulation system as in claim 54 wherein the signal associated with the evoked response is sensed between ~~the~~ an atrial ring electrode and ~~one of said~~ a ventricular electrodes.

57 (currently amended). ~~A cardiae~~ An electrical cardiac stimulation system as in claim 54 wherein the electrical stimulus conducts electrically between ~~the~~ an atrial tip electrode and the housing.

58 (currently amended). ~~A cardiae~~ An electrical cardiac stimulation system as in claim 54 wherein the electrical stimulus conducts electrically between ~~the~~ a ventricular tip electrode and the housing.

59 (currently amended). ~~A cardiae~~ An electrical cardiac stimulation system as in claim 45 wherein the signal associated

with the evoked response is sensed between one of an atrial ring electrode to ventricular ring electrode, atrial ring electrode to can electrode, atrial ring electrode to ventricle coil electrode, atrial ring electrode to superior vena cava coil electrode, atrial tip electrode to ventricular coil electrode, atrial tip electrode to ventricular tip electrode, atrial tip electrode to atrial ring electrode, superior vena cava coil electrode to atrial tip electrode, superior vena cava coil electrode to ventricular coil electrode, superior vena cava coil electrode to ventricular tip electrode, ventricular tip electrode to ventricular coil electrode, superior vena cava coil electrode to ventricular ring electrode, and ventricular ring electrode to ventricular coil electrode.

60 (currently amended). ~~A cardiae~~ An electrical cardiac stimulation system as in claim 43 65 wherein said an afterpotential attenuation device further comprises first and second coupling capacitors.

61 (currently amended). ~~A cardiae~~ An electrical cardiac stimulation system as in claim 60 wherein said first coupling capacitor is less than five microfarads and wherein said second coupling capacitor is greater than ten microfarads.

62 (currently amended). ~~A cardiae~~ An electrical cardiac stimulation system as in claim 44 66 wherein said an afterpotential attenuation means further comprises first and

second coupling capacitors.

63(currently amended). ~~A cardiae~~ An electrical cardiac stimulation system as in claim 62 wherein said first coupling capacitor is less than five microfarads and wherein said second coupling capacitor is greater than ten microfarads.

64(currently amended). A method of automatically determining whether an electrical stimulus evokes a response in the heart when the stimulus is applied by a cardiac electrical stimulation system having atrial and ventricular leads, a pulse generator, and a sensing circuit, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing an electrical stimulus to at least one of an atrium or ventricle of a heart;
- (b) attenuating afterpotential associated with said electrical stimulus;
- (c) sensing an evoked response by the heart to the electrical stimulus, wherein a signal associated with an evoked response from the electrical stimulus is sensed between at least one of an atrial electrode and a ventricular electrode of said leads; and
- (d) wherein said atrial lead includes at least one of an atrial tip electrode and an atrial ring electrode, and said ventricular lead includes at least one of a ventricular tip electrode, ~~a ventricular superior vena cava electrode~~, a ventricular coil electrode, and a ventricular ring electrode.

65(new). An electrical cardiac stimulation system having an autocapture/stimulation/sensing configuration for use with atrial

and ventricular leads, said electrical cardiac stimulation system including:

- (a) a selected combination of electrodes, at least one electrode of said combination being selected from groups consisting of atrial electrodes and ventricular electrodes and at least one electrode of said combination optionally being selected from groups consisting of can electrodes and vena cava electrodes;
- (b) a stimulation system enclosed in a housing, said stimulation system being electrically coupled to each said atrial electrode and each said ventricular electrode for providing an electrical stimulus to at least one of an atrium or ventricle of a heart;
- (c) a sensing circuit that senses an evoked response by the heart to the electrical stimulus, wherein a signal associated with an evoked response from the electrical stimulus is sensed between at least two of said electrodes of said combination; and
- (d) an afterpotential attenuation device for attenuating afterpotentials which result due to the application of the pacing stimulus to the heart by said electrical stimulation system, said afterpotential attenuation device being electrically coupled to said stimulation system.

66(new). An electrical cardiac stimulation system having an autocapture stimulation/sensing configuration for use with atrial and ventricular leads, said electrical cardiac stimulation system including:

- (a) a selected combination of electrodes, at least one electrode of said combination being selected from groups consisting of atrial electrodes and ventricular electrodes and at least one electrode of said combination optionally being selected from groups consisting of can electrodes and vena cava electrodes;
- (b) a stimulation means enclosed in a housing, said stimulation means being electrically coupled to each said atrial electrode and each said ventricular electrode for providing an electrical stimulus to at least one of an atrium or ventricle of a heart;
- (c) a sensing means that senses an evoked response by the heart to the electrical stimulus, wherein a signal associated with an evoked response from the electrical stimulus is sensed between at least two of said electrodes of said combination; and
- (d) an afterpotential attenuation means for attenuating afterpotentials which result due to the application of the pacing stimulus to the heart by said electrical stimulation means, said afterpotential attenuation

device being electrically coupled to said stimulation means.